(c) and (d) All developments having bearing on the national security of India are continuously monitored and all necessary steps are taken from time to time to maintain appropriate defence preparedness to thwart any attempt of misadventure on the part of our adversaries.

Committee to probe anomalies in the recommendation of the Fifth Pay Commission for the armed forces

12. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a)whether a high level committee headed by Defence Secretary has finalised its report on anomalies in the Fifth Pay Commission for the armed forces;

(b)if so, whether Government have examined the report submitted by Defence Secretary;

(c)if so, whether there is still any resentment amongst armed forces on the Fifth Pay Commission recommendations; and

(d)if so, by when all the genuine demands of armed forces would be met?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The High Level Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Defence Secretary with three Service Vice Chiefs and Financial Adviser (Defence Services) as the members to consider anomalies in pay and allowances of the armed forces personnel arising out of the V Central Pay Commission recommendations, has submitted its Report. The Committee while finalising its report has given due consideration to the grievances of the service personnel on the V Pay Commission recommendations. It will not be in public interest to disclose the recommendations of the Committee at this stage. Appropriate decisions will be taken as soon as possible.

Installation of Electronic Surveillance system at Coco Islands by China

13. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a)whether it is a fact that China installed a massive electronic surveillance establishment at Burma's Coco Islands near Andaman;

(b)if so, since how long this surveillance system has been continuing;

(c)whether Government have taken up this issue with the Chinese Army Chief during his recent visit; and

(d)if so, his reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Intelligence reports available with the Government indicate installation by China of electronic surveillance devices in •Coco Islands.

(b)Chinese activities on this Island have been notice since mid-1994.

(c)and (d) The Chief of General Staff, PLA, made a goodwill visit to India recently. During discussions with him, matters of mutual interest and concern were discussed. It will not be appropriate to disclose details of the discussions in the interest of national security and relations with neighbours.

Purchase of Submarines spares through Russian firm

14. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMA-CHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a)whether any complaints have been received against purchase - of spares for submarines through Russian firm;

(b)if so, the details thereof; and

(c)the action taken to inquire into the graft charges?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Naval Head-quarters have reported that an incidence of minor deviation in